



Forever: Why You Can't Live Without It

Paul David Tripp

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The here and now is simply not able to bear the weight of our expectations. We've lost an eternal perspective, and it hurts us every day. Job disappointment, relationship struggles, and quiet feelings of disillusionment all signal that something is not quite right. Life only makes sense when you realize that all of the situations, locations, and relationships of your life were not designed to be a final resting place for your hopes and dreams, but tools of preparation for a destination to come. Living without eternity puts pressure on the here and now to be what it cannot be and to deliver what it cannot deliver. Countless people deal daily with the frustration of a life that has no 'forever.' In Jesus Christ the hope of eternity is restored and, with it, a radical new way of understanding and facing the normal struggles of life in a world broken and waiting for restoration.

Forever: Why You Can't Live Without It Details

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From Reader Review Forever: Why You Can't Live Without It for online ebook

Paula says

This is hard to review. What I love about this book, I love with 5 stars. However, I found the writing to get redundant quite often. Tripp is great on God's Sovereignty, but then reneges it all by saying God had a plan "B". GOD NEVER HAD A PLAN B. Therefore, 3 stars. Paul David Tripp

Kelly says

As mentioned in an update, I found this book had insightful bits that I will try to apply to my life. The author is intuitive with himself and those around him, and especially with God, and I appreciate these qualities in his writing-that is to say, I trust what he has to say, which I don't always digest Christian writers. Some viewpoints seem to contradict what my Eastern Orthodox faith says; regardless, I would recommend this book to anyone and everyone from any walk of life. Superb.

One star off for the contradictions as previously mentioned, for the lack of capitalizing "He" when referring to God (a grammatical error), and for bits of redundancy throughout.

Joshua Spotts says

Forever, Paul Tripp's latest book examining eternity, covers a vast range of topics. The design of the front cover is as eye catching as the content, both implying we cannot live without eternity. Tripp declares that "we have forever inside of us." He says that this longing for eternity causes us to be dissatisfied with the broken world we live in. His self-proclaimed purpose of the book is to look at life from "the perspective of eternity."

Read the rest of the review here: <http://www.christianbookpreviews.com/...>

Anna says

Thought-provoking case for how living with eternity in view can transform all aspects of your life. I liked that he included concrete examples without getting too formulaic. Sometimes a bit repetitive, but Tripp drives his point home well. This would make a really good group discussion book.

Stan Crader says

Readers will get a new sense of joy and how to capture it. Readers will gain a new sense of perspective which casts meaningful things in a more permanent light while making clear how material things are

necessary for the present but unimportant in the bigger picture. The examples are not done with excellent writing but the explanations and thoughts provided in them are great.

Aaron says

My full review is available at [Blogging Theologically](#):

How often do you really think about eternity? While I hope that many of us would answer “quite regularly,” the way we live would certainly suggest that whatever thought we do give to eternity doesn’t really impact our lives. Why is this? Why have we forgotten this fundamental reality of the Christian faith? In his latest book, *Forever: Why You Can’t Live Without It*, Paul David Tripp argues that we may have succumbed to what he describes as “eternity amnesia,” and in this book’s 14 chapters, he seeks to remind us why we can’t ignore “forever.”

Randy Alcorn says

Paul David Tripp is one of the wisest and most quotable writers anywhere. In *Forever*, he brilliantly addresses our crying need for an eternal perspective. This book is superbly written and breathtakingly on target. I found myself exclaiming “yes” over and over, about every other page. Read this book, and live what this book teaches, for God’s glory and for your good—and that of everyone you influence.

Lee Button says

Most Christians live on earth as if it were a destination. Earth is preparation for our destination. When we develop that mindset our lives will reflect an understanding of why we need *Forever*. Tripp has done a masterful job of showing how each part of our lives must be lived, and will be lived better, with eternity in view.

Treyyyyy says

*3.5

Forever was a good book. The first half of the book explained Tripp's idea of *Forever*, and the last half was application.

It was really helpful to change your focus from your current situation (good or bad) and to eternity.

The reason I'm not giving it four to five stars isn't because of the content but because of the way it was written. I think Tripp over-explained the idea of *Forever*. Though, there's a very good chance I'm just

oblivious to the bigger idea of Forever Tripp has. I think the first part could have been condensed to 50-65 pages and the rest could be more application. But that's just me.

I read this book with one of my pastor's and I know he loved it, so this is defiantly a good book, just not my favorite style.

Marianna Peipon says

A clear understanding of lives as we live them (and see them lived) when we have 'eternity amnesia' and also our lives with an eternity focus. What a difference your outlook makes! The message was hammered home through many anecdotes and from different vantage points: through parenting, through marriage, through business. I must admit that I tired of some of the repetition, but I also probably needed it, too!

Have you lost your focus? Read this to help you set your sights more accurately...

Seth Spearman says

I liked this book. I read it along with my community group and we discussed each chapter.

I am a fan of Paul David Tripp. He has written great books on counseling and parenting (like Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands and Age of Opportunity). I find his writing is not very stylistically interesting (hence the 4 stars) but his books have lots of interesting anecdotes and practical application which makes up for it.

The narrative of the book is very helpful and important and, mostly, truthful, even for the sincerest of Christians. Paul reminds us that we all have "Eternity Amnesia" (I love that turn of phrase) which basically means that in the mundane-ness of our everyday lives we forget that that our turn on the earth is temporary...that we are all just pilgrims and strangers here and that we have souls that will never die (to borrow from a famous catechism).

And Paul reminds us of the tragic consequences of that through the expounding of biblical truth and lots and lots of anecdotal story-telling.

My favorite chapter was by far the one on Relationships (Chapter 9). It connected with me and reflected much of my own thinking as I watched some of those close to me unravel their own relationships.

Relationships are killed by...

Unrealistic Expectations.

Looking to our loves one to give what is impossible.

Not realizing you are a broken person living among broken people.

Successful relationships require...

A deep reservoir of patience and grace toward one another.

An inexplicable capacity for forgiveness (the 7 x 70 kind that is rooted in the understanding that we have

been forgiven much in the Gospel).

A determination to never settle into patterns of indifference and complacency.

A disposition of humility and brokenness.

Being patient with the other person but never with yourself.

Persevering through the hard times.

A willingness to quietly embrace your suffering.

One part of the book I didn't enjoy is that it began to be repetitive. The book is structured to discuss eternity as it relates to... (relationships, parenting, work etc) and there is a lot of repetition. It begins to feel like déjà vu after a while.

The book is definitely worth reading though. And if you can ever HEAR Paul David Tripp at a conference...he is one of the best presenters I have ever heard.

Seth

Jeanie says

This is more of a guide on how to live your life with forever in mind. Forever with raising your children, forever thru suffering, forever thru your relationships, forever with real joy, forever with your job. When you live with forever in mind, it changes everything. Tripp uses his own personal journey experience in understanding how forever in suffering and relationships can transform you. Since he is a counselor, he uses the experiences of others that he has helped. God has placed Forever inside each one of us and since distress is sometimes a hunger of what will be, we can make the wrong choices without forever in mind. It then becomes a matter of who we are and not what we believe. God always responds to us with forever in mind. Without forever in mind, we can have a distorted view of our lives now. Addiction and disappointment is when we do not have that correct view. Addiction can be broken with forever in mind and disappointment can be used as opportunities. I found this book very helpful and very God-centered. If I had one complaint, it would be that more scripture would have been used.

Bevalie says

Viewing life as a part of an eternal plan and everlasting story changes everything. It is so refreshing to place all events, circumstances, and daily life into proper perspective. Knowing that I can rest in God's sovereign love and the security of His omniscience gives me peace. Thankful for this read.

Emily says

I bought this book at the Liberate Conference in Ft. Lauderdale. (the bookstore at the conference had me drooling all over the place!) Having gone through loss, Heaven and forever is suddenly a big topic of interest for me so the book and it's description really grabbed my attention.

The book is about forever - eternity - and how our view of it impacts our lives. Most notably that we don't even think about it at all in our day to day existence. We have, as the author frequently states, "eternity amnesia". The book describes our neglect of eternity and how that neglect shapes the way we think and how we live. It was very eye-opening for me. I had no idea how vast and deep a difference having and living with a right perspective of eternity makes on your everyday life. We generally acknowledge that our understanding of forever affects our view of death and loss, but how many of us really think that it also affects our frustrations, broken relationships, or our sense of identity?

Starting from a biblical foundation and understanding of eternity, Mr. Tripp takes us on a spiritual journey to flesh out all the ways forever shapes our lives. We come to see how much we struggle when we live only with the here and now in view, and then see how much life and freedom there is in viewing life from Heaven's vantage point. This book is deeply practical because it digs down into your heart, to the beliefs that root your life and your thoughts. By focusing on the heart, you get to the heart of the problem and not just the affects of the problem. I found this book to be immensely encouraging, comforting, and challenging. I absolutely loved it and wrote down lots of quotes that really touched my heart. I rarely ever re-read books because I have so many new books to delve into, but this most certainly is a book that I want to read again. It has a message I desperately needed to hear and one I definitely need to keep hearing as I fight the constant battle of living for forever against the here and now of a broken world.

To close, I wanted to post a few of my favorites quotes from the book - this is just a sampling of the wonderful teaching in the book!

"Many of us treat the here and now as a destination. Whatever our confessional theology says about eternity, at the functional level we live as if this is all there is. We live with a destination mentality instead of a preparation mentality." (p. 34)

"As we begin to realize that in this broken world we cannot look for reliable hope horizontally, we are at the edge of what we were designed to do: hope in God. And as we begin to place our hope in God, we get connected to the promise of eternity, where all that is broken will be fixed and made new again. And as we do this, we look at life in a radically new way. We no longer ask the broken people, places, and things to be the source of our hope. We know they can't be, because they are broken and in need of renewal just like we are." (p.100)

"When you look back on life from eternity, you begin to understand what you desperately need and what God is doing. The result is a way of living that is different than you have ever known and a rest of heart that is more steadfast than you have ever experienced." (p.204)

Ashley says

I don't think I even finished this. It was just ok. I have a tough time with the idea of eternity and forever, so it

was a tough one for me. If you're curious about the subject, this is the book for you!
